

The Menu

Of Business Opportunities for Education Partnerships

HUMAN RESOURCES	ARE DOING	WILL DO	NEED INFO	COMMENTS
WITHIN THE SCHOOLS:				
Job Shadowing: Offer students the opportunity to explore careers by spending 2-3 hours observing someone in their field of interest. Students will discover what skills and educational background is necessary to perform a specific job. This program is available to students in high school, technical institutes and college.				
Internships: Establish internship programs to allow students to develop workplace skills in a high-wage, high-skill training environment. Internships include on-the-job training with a skilled mentor. Internships may be paid or unpaid. This program is available to qualified students in high school, technical institutes and college.				
Mentoring programs: Be a friend and "role model" for a student in grades 3-8 by monitoring their progress in school and encouraging them to do better. The students will be offered the opportunity to visit your business for an afternoon to have a clearer picture of what you do at work.				
Field trips: Host field trips for students, parents and school employees to provide more awareness of jobs available and skills needed.				
Resource persons: Teachers wish to have business people serve as speakers for special class presentations, Tech Prep studies, career day activities, etc. Encourage your employees to become part of the Chamber's data bank of human resources (Speaker's Bureau).				
Tutorial services: Schools have special needs for tutorial services. Tutor students who need assistance.				
Tuesday Tours: Host a business tour for teachers to help raise their awareness of the world of work and the knowledge, attitude and skills students need to be successful.				
Teacher Business Exchange: Provide summer job shadowing opportunities for teachers so they may see applications of math, science, communications and technology in the workplace and identify skills which employees need for successful careers.				
Technical services: Gain knowledge of the schools' technology plans and provide technical resource support for implementation of such plans.				
Adopt-a-school, adopt-a-class, or adopt-a-subject: Focus support and resources on one-class or one-school. Establish a formal agreement between your business and the school.				
Improvement of school facilities: Gain knowledge of school facility improvements.				
Leadership training: If you are involved in major training initiatives, share special sessions with school personnel.				
Motivational speakers: If your company is having a motivational speaker to talk with your employees, arrange for joint sessions with students, parents, and school personnel or sponsor special sessions at school.				
Release time: Promote release times, paid or unpaid, for employees to attend parent-teacher conferences or to participate in school activities. Develop a company policy on release time for your employees.				

"I HEAR AND I FORGET - I SEE AND I REMEMBER - I DO AND I UNDERSTAND"

	ARE DOING	WILL DO	NEED INFO	COMMENTS
WITHIN THE BUSINESS:				
Corporate newsl ine: Use corporate communication to provide positive messages about education partnerships to promote employee involvement in schools and to support area schools. Recognize employee contributions to business education partnerships and focus on academic and athletic achievements of their children.				
Employee recognition: Recognize the parents of students who do well in school - students who make the honor roll, who have perfect attendance, who excel in extracurricular activities, etc.				
Monitoring of student employees: If your business has part time student workers, let them know that school is important. Monitor their progress, and demonstrate enthusiasm for their successes.				
Parent Workshops: Provide for parenting sessions in the workplace. Arrange with the schools to offer special topics related to improving parenting skills.				
MATERIAL RESOURCES				
Informational Videos: Produce a five to eight minute video to highlight your business and the job skills required in your work place. Your promotional video could be viewed in area schools, aired on cable TV and used to encourage internships and corporate tours.				
Promotional materials: When you provide materials (such as mugs, hats, and specialty items) for your employees, consider providing additional supplies for use in the schools.				
Student incentives: Provide student incentives for positive reinforcement of academic achievement and good behavior.				
FINANCIAL RESOURCES				
Newspapers in education: Encourage student interest in current events by financially supporting a newspaper subscription for an area school.				
OTHER ACTIVITIES:				

Business _____ Contact Person _____ Phone _____

Business-education partnerships give structure to the ways in which companies and schools can work together to improve student learning. This extensive list of opportunities for business involvement in Upper Yakima Valley schools includes activities that can be conducted within the schools and/or within the companies. The Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce encourages you to join the growing number of businesses partnering with schools to prepare students for life and work in the Twenty-first Century.

What is your business doing now to promote education for area students? What can your business do? What information do you need? Can you assist with human resources? material resources? financial resources? Please use **The Menu** to document the involvement of your business education team with area schools. When you return this form to the Chamber, you will receive additional tips and pointers for forming partnerships that help prepare the workforce for tomorrow.